

**REMARKS**

Claims 15 and 16 remain pending following cancellation of all other claims in the present application.

The Examiner has indicated that Claim 15 is allowed in un-amended form. The un-amended form is found in the Amendment filed on May 22, 2003. Accordingly, favorable action and allowance of the present application is respectfully solicited in view of the two remaining allowed claims.

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Edward H. Valance (Reg. No. 19,896) at the telephone number of the undersigned below.

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.17 and 1.136(a), Applicant(s) respectfully petition(s) for a three (3) month extension of time for filing a reply in connection with the present application. A two (2) month extension of time was previously paid for in the amount of \$420.00 together with the filing of an Amendment on December 16, 2004. Therefore, an additional fee of \$530.00 for extension through the third month has been paid by check and is attached to the Notice of Appeal filed concurrently herewith.

Appl. No. 09/254,316

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP

By Edward H. Valance #19896  
FOR Joseph A. Kolasch, #22,463

JAK/EHV:kdm  
0946-0113P

P.O. Box 747  
Falls Church, VA 22040-0747  
(703) 205-8000